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H.321

Introduced by Representatives Sibilgia of Dover, Batchelor of Derby,
Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Conquest of
Newbury, Eastman of Orwell, Hebert of Vernon, Martel of
Waterford, Partridge of Windham, Young of Glover, and Zagar
of Barnard

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Education; consolidation; financial projections

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require that
the State prepare five-year projections of taxpayer savings, tax rates, and
educational opportunities to accompany any efforts to mandate or encourage
school district or supervisory union consolidation.

An act relating to requiring projected financial savings, tax rates, and
educational opportunities in connection with mandated school district
consolidation

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. SAVINGS; TAX RATE, AND OPPORTUNITY PROJECTIONS;

CONSOLIDATION

If the State enacts laws mandating consolidation of school districts or
supervisory unions, including legislation that has the effect of mandating

1 consolidation by withholding previously provided State aid or imposing
2 financial penalties, then before any particular group of districts or supervisory
3 unions consolidates, the Secretary of Education shall publish five-year
4 projections specific to those districts or supervisory unions that detail:

5 (1) the five line items in which taxpayers in those districts or
6 supervisory unions can most likely anticipate seeing savings;

7 (2) the statewide education property tax rates for nonresidential and
8 homestead property in those districts or supervisory unions; and

9 (3) at least five specific areas in which students in those districts or
10 supervisory unions are most likely to experience increased educational
11 opportunities.

12 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 This act shall take effect on passage.